

wherein the server provides data defining a virtual community space accessible from each of the terminals,

wherein each of the terminals provides a movement interpretation node configured to set forth parameters needed for interpretation of the movement of an associated virtual living object based upon user input and to provide the movement interpretation node to the server via the network, and

wherein the server provides a management node configured to determine at least some movements for each virtual living object in the virtual community space based on the movement interpretation node received from each terminal.

2. (Amended) The information processing system as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the movement interpretation node parameters include at least a parameter indicative of a structure of the virtual living object; and

the management node for the virtual living object manages at least the action of the virtual living object in the virtual community space based on the movement interpretation node parameters.

3. (Amended) An information processing method comprising the steps of:
building a virtual living object at a terminal;
determining a movement interpretation node setting forth at least some parameters needed for interpretation of at least some of the movements of the associated virtual living object at the terminal;
connecting the terminal to a server via network;
building a virtual community space based on information supplied from the server;
and

transmitting the virtual living object along with the associated movement interpretation node to the server to at least in part manage movement of the associated virtual living object in the virtual community space.

4. (Amended) The method as set forth in Claim 3, wherein the at least some parameters needed for interpretation of at least some of the movements of the associated virtual living object of the movement interpretation node include a parameter indicative of at least a structure of the virtual living object.

5. (Amended) An information processing method comprising the steps of:
connecting a server to a terminal via a network;
receiving data over the network from the terminal indicating a virtual living object built by the terminal and a movement interpretation node setting forth at least some parameters needed for interpretation of at least some of the movements of the virtual living object node; and

generating a management node for determining at least one movement of the virtual living object in a virtual community space based on the movement interpretation node being received.

6. (Amended) The method as set forth in Claim 5, wherein:
the movement interpretation node includes at least one parameter indicative of at least a structure of the virtual living object; and
the management node for the virtual living object manages at least the action of the virtual living object in the virtual community space based on the at least one parameter.

7. (Amended) An information processing apparatus comprising:

means for building a virtual living object at a terminal and determining an associated movement interpretation node setting forth at least some parameters needed for interpretation of at least some of the movements of the virtual living object;

means for connecting the terminal to a server via a network;

means for building a virtual community space based on information from the server;

and

means for transmitting the virtual living object along with the associated movement interpretation node to the server to at least in part manage movement of the associated virtual living object in the virtual community space.

8. (Amended) The apparatus as set forth in Claim 7, wherein the movement interpretation node includes at least one parameter indicative of at least a structure of the virtual living object.

9. (Amended) An information processing apparatus comprising:

means for connecting to a terminal via a network;

means for receiving terminal transmitted data from the network; and

means for generating a management node for managing at least one movement of a virtual living object in a virtual community space based on a movement interpretation node being received as part of said terminal transmitted data,

wherein the terminal transmitted data indicates the virtual living object and the associated movement interpretation node setting forth at least some parameters needed for interpretation of at least some of the movements of the virtual living object.

10. (Amended) The apparatus as set forth in Claim 9, wherein:

the movement interpretation node includes at least one parameter indicative of at least a structure of the virtual living object; and

the management node for the virtual living object manages at least the action of the virtual living object in the virtual community space based on the at least one parameter.

11. (Amended) An information medium for carrying a computer program comprising the steps of:

extracting data defining at least a structure of a virtual living object built for movement in a virtual community space;

communicating the extracted data to a master manager configured to manage the movement of the virtual living object in the virtual community space; and

moving the virtual living object based on the extracted data being used by the master manager to generate data to control at least one action of the virtual living object.

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-11 are pending in this application. Claims 1-11 have been amended to clarify the present invention without the introduction of any new matter.

The outstanding Office Action includes a rejection of Claims 1-11 based upon the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claims 1-32 of U.S. Patent No. 6,253,167 and Claims 1-12 of U.S. Patent No. 6,268,872, a rejection of Claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Morse et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,802,296, Morse) in view of Matsui et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,956,028, Matsui), and Claims 2, 4, 6, 8, and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Morse in view of Matsui in further view of Falacara et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,377,263, Falacara).